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Message Text

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10
ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SSC-01 /063 W
---------- 061460
R 030917Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9456
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, NG
SUBJECT: PROVISINAL GOVERNMENT RESHUFFLED

1. LT COL KOUNTCHE HAS SHUFFLED HIS MILITARY CABINET FOR SECOND TIME SINCE MILITARY ASSUMED POWER LESS THAN 8 MONTHS AGO. KOUNTCHE RETAINS DEFENSE MINISTRY IN NEW LINE-UP BUT SHIFTED INTERIOR MINISTRY TO MAJOR KDRISSA HAROUNA WHO RETAINS PUBLIC SERVICE AND LABOR MINISTRIES. MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT SANI SOUNA SIDO WAS ELEVATED TO NEW POSITION OF MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEVELOPMENT CONFIRMING HIS NUMBER TWO POSITION IN GON. DYNAMIC CAPTAIN ALI SAIBOU, CREDITED BY MANY WITH MAJOR ROLE IN ASSURING DELIVERIES OF FOOD LAST SUMMER WAS DROPPED FROM CABINET BUT ASSUMES KOUNTCHE'S OLD JOB AS MILITARY CHIEF OF STAFF. THE NEW MINISTER FOR RURAL ECONOMY IS FORMER PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT MINISTER BAYERE MOUSSA.

2. THE INFORMATION MINISTRY AND YOUTH AND SPORTS HAVE
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BEEN ATTACHED TO PRESIDENCY UNDER IBRAHIM LOUTOU

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(INFORMATION), FORMER ABMASSADRO TO NIGERIA AND GARBA
SIDIKOU (YOUTH AND SPORTS), FORMER DIRECTOR OF
NATIONAL REDIO.

3. THE NEW GON:

LT. COL SEYNI KOUNTCHEC PRESIDENT OF SMC, CHIEF OF STATE,
MINISTER OF DEFENSE

MAJOR SANI SOUNA SIDO: MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER OF MINES AND DYDRAULICS

COLONEL HENRI DUPUIS: MINISTER OF EDUCATION

MAJOR IDRISSA ARTTUCA: MINISTER OF INTERIOR
MINISTER OF CIVIL SERVICE AND LABOR

MAJOR SORY MAMADOU DIALLO: MINISTER OF JUSTICE
MINISTER OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

INTENDANT MILITAIRE MOUSSA TONDI: MINISTER OF FINANCES

CAPTAIN MOUMOUNI DJERMAKOYE: MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
COOPERATION

CAPTAIN MOUSSA SALA: MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

CAPTAIN BAYEREWXOUSSA: MINISTER OF RURAL ECONOMY AND CLIMATE

CAPTAIN BOULAMA MANGA: MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY

CAPTAIN GABRIEL CYRILLE: MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS, TRANSPORTA-
TION AND URBANISM

ALOU HAROUNA: SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INTERIOR

ANNOU MAHAMAN: SECRETARY OF STATE FOR RURAL ECONOMY

MOUNKEILA AROUNA: SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEVELOPMENT
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ALFIDJA ABDERRAHMANE: SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COOPERATION

GARBA SIDIKOU: SECRETARY OF STATE AT THE PRESIDENCY FOR YOUTH
AND SPORTS

IBRAHIM LOUTOU: SECRETARY OF STATE AT THE PRESIDENCY
FOR INFORMATTION

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4. COMMENT: FEELING MORE AND MORE ASSURED OF HIS POSITION, PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE HAS GIVEN UP TWO MORE OF HIS HATS. WITH THE LOSS OF HIS DAY-TO-DAY TASKS AT MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (WHERE HE PERSONALLY PASSED ON ALL FOREIGN, INCLUDING DIPLOMATIC AND PRESS, TRIPS TO INTERIOR) AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS OF MILITARY HEADQUARTERS, KOUNTCHE CAN DEVOTE MORE OF HIS TIME TO HIS PRIMARY INTEREST, DEVELOPMENT, AND HIS GROWING INTEREST IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS. CONTRARY TO SPECULATED DECREASE IN SANI SIDO'S INFLUENCE FOLLOWING LAST CABINET REALIGNMENT, SANI'S EMERGENCE AS MINISTER OF STATE CONFIRMS HIS PREEMINENCE SECOND ONLY TO DOUNTCHE. DROPPING OF ALI SAIBOU FROM VITAL RURAL ECONOMY SLOT MAY BE BLOW TO SOME OF INTERNATIONALLY (INCLUDING USAID) FINANCED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. HIS REPLACEMENT, BAYERE MOUSSA LACKS SOME OF HIS PREDECESSOR'S ENTHUSIASM AND DRIVE. THE PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENT OF ALI SAIBOU TO MILITARY CHIEF OF STAFF MARKS SAIBOU AS PRESIDENT'S MAN AND CAN BE CONSIDERED AS STEP UP, AS IT WAS FROM THAT KEY POSITION THAT KOUNTCHE HIMSELF LED LAST APRIL'S COUP D'ETAT.HECK

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